

THE BRADFIELD GRAPEVINE



November 2023 No:219

Firstly an apology for completely getting the bins wrong last month! In days gone by we used to get a printed calendar for the year ...due to cutbacks they now only put them on line two weeks in advance...of course this is way before the dates we need for the Grapevine so we sit with pen and paper and work it out ourselves...sounds simple! It is the part of the Grapevine that causes the most stress :). Had another go this month - dreading the double edition next month with additional bank holidays.

The Church looked wonderful for the Harvest Festival and a reminder that the Church will not be open weekends from the end of October. Until the clocks leap forward in the Spring. Hope you all remembered to change them on Sunday 29th October.

Storm Babet arrived and provided us with plenty of water to fill reservoirs, however we echo Alice's sentiments and hope that everyone managed to keep safe. Looking at news reports on TV and in the papers we were still very lucky in Bradfield St Clare weren't we?

Save the Date

Village Quiz Night, Friday 24th November@7pm Tickets £7.Bring your own nibbles and drinks...half time additional refreshments provided. Tel: 01284 386169 for tickets.

Margaret Lovick
Tel: 01284 386662

Debbie Thomas
Tel: 01284 386302

Email:stclaregrapevine@gmail.com

Church Report



Welcome to this months' St.Clare Church News

I write this just as we have celebrated the Harvest Festival. Rev Richard Stainer led an uplifting Service Friday 13th October, with 19 of us in the congregation. Many compliments were made regarding the stunning floral displays. Thank you to Margaret Lovick and her band of merry women Jeanette Roe, Val Nunn and Debbie Thomas. The collection will be donated to a Farming Charity and all foods offered were delivered to Sue and Clive Leal to pass on to The Food Bank.

We are so fortunate in Bradfield St.Clare to have so much support for the Church and as the summer draws to a close, so we thank all those who have opened and closed our Church at weekends since Easter, and provided flowers. Also thanks go to Betty and Angela for their continued cleaning prowess.

As the clocks fall back by an hour on Sunday 29th October so our Evening Service moves from 6pm to 4pm on 3rd Sundays of each month. Morning Communion continues at 11.00am on 1st Sunday of the month. (Occasionally alterations necessary).

Also we look forward to the Church being externally lit over the winter months, welcoming all to the Village.

Alongside regular donations and service collections much needed money comes from regular Fundraisers.

An update from last month Isobel Payne raised a final total of £1,100 with the Suffolk Bike Ride. Half of this comes directly to St.Clare, while

the remainder stays with the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust, who then make grants to Churches on application.

Future fundraising includes Village Quiz Night, Friday 24th November - a joint venture with the Village Hall.

The ShantyFolk - after an extremely successful evening last November, will return during March 2024, date to be confirmed as Isobel promotes and advertises this.

Many thanks to each and everyone who supports our Church, it is very much appreciated.

Finally, for those missing the decorated banner, with luck by the time you read this it will be reinstated.

Lorraine Morley

From the family of Jack Bumpstead

Colin and Shirley wish to thank everyone for the cards, kind messages of condolence and donations to St Nicholas Hospice.

This has been much appreciated at this sad time.

Message from the Rectory

Dear Friends,

Driving down from a holiday in Yorkshire in heavy rain from Storm Babette I had plenty of time to reflect on the climate crisis and what we are doing to God's creation. As we watched the news and seeing the impact of the floods in Debenham, Framlingham and other parts of the country I am sure many of our hearts went out to the people affected. Autumn has certainly arrived and for many it has brought misery.

But then there is so much to be sad about in our world at the moment. The Israeli-Hamas conflict is causing enormous suffering for both Palestinians and Israelis. The death toll continues to rise and families continue to grieve the loss of loved ones and the loss of their homes. We can only pray that the one God we all acknowledge will bring thoughts of peace and wisdom to the leaders on both sides that this conflict may be quickly resolved.

The horrors in the Middle East, have eclipsed in the media the ongoing horrors of the war in Ukraine. Other conflicts, such as the one in Sudan rarely make our news bulletins, but mean real misery for those caught up in them. That is why it is important that we remember those wars in which we have played a part. Remembrance Day, on the 11th November will be followed by church services to remember those who died in our villages across the benefice on Sunday the 12th November. This is also a time for us to recall the suffering of those involved and to pledge ourselves to work for peace and understanding.

So, having pitched us all into the slough of despond, how can I bring a bit of light into the darkness? Well, of course, we have much to be thankful for and to look forward to. In recognition of that there will be a special service of thanksgiving at St Peter's Cockfield on the 29th October at 10.30 a.m.. This will be an opportunity to worship together and give thanks for our benefice. After the service at 12.30 in Bradfield St George Village Hall there is a Pop-Up Café with bar serving a traditional Sunday Lunch (veggie option available). It will be strictly first come, first served and pay what you like, pay what you can!

There are also two fundraisers coming up at St Peter's Cockfield over the next few weeks. On the 18th November at 10.30 there is a Craft and Artisan Fair and on the 2nd December the Suffolk Church Singers will be performing at 4.00 p.m. in the church. Both events are free but donations will be welcomed.

There is indeed much to feel despondent about in the world at the moment, but there is also much to gladden our hearts and lift our spirits. Let us always remember, in the words of John's gospel, 'The light keeps shining in the dark, and the darkness has never put it out.'

With every blessing,

Rev. Richard

Cockfield Benefice Services & Events November 2023

<p>Sunday 5 November All Saints Day</p>	<p>9.30am Communion CW - Stanningfield 10am Morning Prayer CW - Cockfield 11am Communion CW – Bradfield St Clare 6pm Six2Seven – Felsham Village Hall</p>
<p>Sunday 12th November 3rd before Advent / Remembrance Sunday</p>	<p>8.30am Said Communion - Bradfield St Clare 10.30am Remembrance Service - War memorial at Bradfield Combust 10.30am Remembrance Service - Felsham 10.30am Remembrance Service - Cockfield 10.30am Remembrance Service - Bradfield St Geo</p>
<p>Sunday 19th November 2nd before Advent</p>	<p>9.30am Morning Prayer CW - Stanningfield 10.30am Communion CW - Cockfield 10am Family Service - Felsham 4pm Evening Prayer CW - Bradfield St Clare</p>
<p>Sunday 26th November Christ the King</p>	<p>9.30am Communion CW - Gt Whelnetham 10am Communion BCP - Gedding 10am Sunday Worship for Christ the King - Bradfield St George -</p>

Please note these services may be subject to change – for up-to-date service times see the benefice website at www.cockfieldbenefice.com

A service of Celtic Morning Prayer is held every Tuesday at Cockfield at 9am and at Stanningfield every Thursday at 9a.m.

A prayer group meets every Wednesday at 2pm via zoom. For more details contact Rev Sharon Potter revsharon@gmail.com

Knit One, Purl One, Knit one, Drop One!

Having spent the last few weeks knitting (lovely to put the pins down!) Firstly Teddy Bears for Seafarers Charity - yes, I know, me neither, but apparently they make their way back to their children in places as far apart as Japan, Asia, Caribbean, in fact worldwide, spreading a little global happiness. Secondly I've knitted sets of "beany hats" and mittens for ages to go with the shoe boxes that we send to refugee and families in poverty in Romania, Bosnia, Serbia and Ukraine as a gesture of Christmas goodwill to all men. And now I'm frantically knitting remembrance poppies to sell for the Royal British Legion as I have done now for well over a decade...All this knitting got me thinking how did I learn to knit? Well quite extraordinary really....

During the war (before you ask WW2 - I'm not *that* old!) my mother, grandmother, sister and I all took ourselves off to darkest Wales, specifically the Gower Peninsula - very remote, we lived in a very small seaside village called Port Eynon, cut off literally from most of the outside world, very little communication of any kind, just the wireless we all listened avidly to the six o'clock news to learn what was going on in the war but it seemed another world. There was a bus which trundled round the villages from time to time, other than that no cars or even bicycles so 'shanks pony' made our world very small. However, we were on the Bristol Channel which when lit up by the moon at night was a pathway for wave after wave of German bombers targeting the ports of Cardiff, Port Talbot and, nearer us, Swansea. They were so low we could see all the markings and felt we could almost touch them, but we were small and they didn't waste their bombs on us. The only time we had to venture into Swansea was to visit the dentist about every six months, anyway on one occasion (not my grandmother - I don't think she has a single tooth in her mouth - they resided in a glass by her bed at night). We had been to the dentist, it must have been winter, very cold, getting dark and we were waiting at the bus stop (no bus shelters) to catch the only bus for the long and tedious journey all around the peninsula home - took an eternity, when shock, horror - the air raid warning sounded, it's an horrific sound, and amazingly the only time I have heard it, closely followed by the thud of bombs exploding and the flash of guns and beams of searchlights across the sky - all very frightening. Within a short time all traffic, such as it was (with petrol being severely rationed by now and only essential people, doctors,

ambulance and fire crews got any)came to a standstill to allow ambulances, fire engines etc to rush through the streets, in order to help with the blackout. All headlights were almost completely blacked out and always dipped and there were very few streetlights and this sometimes led to accidental fatalities . So there we were stuck in an unknown city, in the pouring rain and scared stiff and no chance of a bus. It felt like forever that we stood there, but eventually a car pulled up, a door opened and a friendly voice said 'Are you stuck? I'm a doctor - hop in and I will take you to my home' - would you do that nowadays? Admittedly, he did have a doctor's sign on the top of his car, so jump in we did, without a second thought. Soon we were thawing out, drying off and drinking tea and eating toast, made on a toasting fork in front of the fire - luxury. Meanwhile, we were all still very scared and frightened and the all clear was yet to sound. Suddenly, the doctor's wife asked me if I could knit - beside her chair was a bag of knitting, everyone knitted in the war! My granny was a great knitter and tried for ages, unsuccessfully, to teach me to knit aged 10/11. The doctor's wife offered to teach me there and then to knit, obviously to distract me - and miracles do happen- probably within the hour I had mastered the basics and I have never looked back and have remained an avid knitter all my life - I love it. Eventually, the kind doctor drove us home, using his precious petrol, and with no signposts (they had all been removed to confuse the enemy) Our good samaritan did get us home and then he had to drive all the way back - our Hero! Meanwhile, I could knit!

Pat Hipwell

Please support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



**Hand knitted Poppies for sale @£2.50
Available from Pat Hipwell
Contact 01284 386636**

Special price for residents of Bradfield St Clare £2 (if ordered before 4th November).



Despite the heavy rainfall and flooding, making it difficult for neighbours in Cockfield and Felsham to attend, we had a very good turnout at our October opening. The winner of our Find the Bird competition was Jen Larner from Bury St Edmunds. There were 16 all correct entries and Jen's name was pulled from a hat. Many thanks to Sue Holden who compiled this excellent fun quiz which raised almost £200 bringing the total raised for Macmillan to over £700! There are still some monies to come in and we will let you know the exact amount as soon as the rest of the money has been collected and banked.

Please come and join us on **Saturday, 18th November**. It's a great way to keep in touch as well as meeting new friends and neighbours for coffee, tea, cakes and savouries. Pop in for five minutes or stay for the whole two hours. There are games, colouring books and pencils to keep our younger visitors amused. We also have quite a selection of books as well as a few jigsaw puzzles in the hall so please feel free to borrow or exchange any that take your fancy. There is something for everyone at the Kit Café and you can be sure of a very warm welcome as well as enjoying some tasty treats and drinking as many cups tea and coffee as you can manage.

We are always grateful to receive donations of cakes and savouries. Also if you have any suggestions, or would like to help in any way, your input would be very much appreciated.

For further information please contact Val on 07483245825.

News from Homefield



It's now time to start clearing up the allotment, spreading compost then either digging or rotavating it in. The runner and dwarf beans have been cleared away, as have the sunflowers. After saving seed, I had the brilliant idea of putting the hedgecutter over them to chop the stalks into mulch. The mulch bit worked but I've got to dig the "stumps" out by hand. Yet another 'timesaving' idea to take note of. The last of the tomatoes have been souped and the sweetcorn harvested. We tried baby sweetcorn this year but probably left them a bit too long and the kernels ripened to a rock hard consistency. Chillies and peppers have done well, maybe try a few more next year.

We are still harvesting beetroot and carrots plus the odd cabbage after the usual slug leaf peel - how many layers do you peel off before you are confident there are no more slugs left? Not that they will hurt you but it's the thought. We have started on the sprouts before they burst and lose their crunch, mostly into the freezer along with the broccoli. I've actually managed to get some swedes growing which are being harvested now. The parsnips, which I'm convinced have an Australian magnet on their roots (the first one out was 18" long!) are looking the best ever. I know us "old boys" always say you should wait for a good frost before harvesting but with the winter's of late I can't wait until next February.

On the fruit side, the apples and pears have been picked and either stored or crumbled. The autumn raspberries are still going strong, as is the 'Goldfall' raspberry bush bought from the "I've nearly had it" corner of the garden centre. This is its second year and is loaded with

beautiful gold coloured raspberries, much sweeter in flavour than the red ones. We also had our first honeydew melon from the polytunnel which was very much enjoyed.

When I tell people about the polytunnel, I think they imagine an oasis of plants growing in a tropical environment . In reality it's a home for all my gardening paraphernalia, plastic pots, half a bag of cement - probably solid by now, baskets, wire, string etc etc interspersed with some plants.

No news on the sheep front, everything seems to be ticking over nicely. At least they still respond to the whistle for feed which is good. They have even put an album featuring Roger Whittaker on their Christmas list - I haven't the heart to tell them it's available on their iPhones.

Glyn

The Stall at Linden House

The stall outside Linden House is back out for the summer. All proceeds from this stall go directly to the Church. Donations of plants, produce and other saleable items would all be very welcome.

People have been very generous this month and we are very grateful for it

This month the stall raised £20

The stall will be retiring for winter from 1st November.



Bradfield Weather

September 2019	September 2020	September 2021	September 2022	Sept 2023
34 mm	42 mm	67 mm	42 mm	65 mm
October 2019	October 2020	October 2021	October 2022	October 2023
111.5 mm	99.5mm	95.5 mm	38 mm	[to 23rd 133]

BIG NEWS – I have backup! Tom over-the-road (as he's known in our house!) at Dairy Farm has installed a weather station which provides computerised results and doesn't rely on me a)remembering to look at the rain gauge b)remembering to empty the rain gauge c)remembering to write down the info! And comparing the data thus far for October there may have been occasions when I've failed to make accurate recordings... So I think I'll be relying on Tom's data as the official source for this report. Thank you Tom!

The 30yr average for September's rainfall is 47.33mm, so we were a bit up on that. But October has to be the month of interest to focus on. In the past week we have had 76mm of rain thanks to Storm Babet. I don't know about you, but what I found remarkable on Friday 20th was the extraordinary stillness of the day as the rained poured down – I did wonder if the storm would ever move on as there seemed to be nothing to blow it on through. Roads across Suffolk were badly affected and for once I was thankful we don't live near a river. I hope everyone remained safe and avoided writing off vehicles. Red weather warnings are a rarity and our heartfelt sympathies go to all those who have lost homes and loved ones.

Coupled with this, temperatures of 30 degrees were recorded around 8/9th October and we had our first ground frost although the temperature hasn't quite dropped to zero yet. Climate change is well and truly here and affecting us all.

Alice Ward-Thomas 23rd October

A timely reminder to be wary at this time of year.....

Sadly scams, fraud etc are on the increase - Here are some additional numbers to keep handy for reporting these events.

Report non-emergencies online

www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something or 101.

Report suspicious activity to 101 or Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111.

Report cold callers to Suffolk Trading Standards - 0808 223 1133.

Report fraud attempts to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

Domestic Abuse Helplines - 0808 2000 247 or 0800 977 5690.

Stop hurting the one you love & call The Respect Phonenumber - 0808 802 4040.

Forward SCAM/suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk

Forward SCAM texts to 7726.

Dial 159 for priority connection to your bank's fraud department.

Gatehouse Food Bank

Christmas is coming ...the goose is getting fat...sadly this may not be true for every one at the moment.

Please remember that Clive and Sue Leal make regular journeys into Bury to take our village donations to the Food Bank. Donations can be left in the Church Porch or in the box on the doorstep of The Maltings, Bury Road. Thank you for your continued generosity.

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CALL MARK on 01284386865 or 07725625760

Christmas Cookery Book

Unfortunately, we have had limited response to our request for your favourite recipes. Therefore we will not be producing a cookery book in time for Christmas. Thank you to all of who have sent in a recipe. What we propose to do is include those that we have received in future editions of the Grapevine. If you do not want your recipe published please email stclaregrapevine@gmail.com and say you do not want it published. If we don't hear from you - thank you for your contribution and please look out for it in future editions.



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Autumn Fires - Robert Louis Stevenson

In the other gardens
And all up in the vale,
From the autumn bonfires
See the smoke trail!

Pleasant summer over,
And all the summer flowers,
The red fire blazes,
The grey smoke towers.

Sing a song of seasons!
Something bright in all!
Flowers in the summer,
Fires in the fall



The Library Van Dates 2023

Contact: help@suffolklibraries.co.uk Telephone: 01473 351249

The Library Van will call at Bradfield St Clare Village Hall from **9.40am until 9.55am** on the following dates:

15 November	13 December
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BIN COLLECTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 2023

Wednesday 1 November	Blue Bin
Tuesday 7 November	Brown Bin
Wednesday 8 November	Black Bin
Wednesday 15 November	Blue Bin
Tuesday 21 November	Brown Bin
Wednesday 22 November	Black Bin
Wednesday 29 November	Blue Bin

www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/bindays

Village Hall Whist Drive



WHIST DRIVE

Sixteen players took part in our October whist drive, nine men and seven ladies so Ean very kindly agreed to play as a lady this month.

The winning players were:

Ladies: Shirley took first prize again with 171 points, second was Ean on 165 and third prize was won by Siobhan with 155. Jus took the ladies wooden spoon this month on 149.

Gentlemen: First prize went to Ian with 175, followed by Gerry on 162 and third prize went to Steve 157 points. Derek took this month's wooden spoon with 141.

Whist Drives are held in the village hall on the first Friday of every month, the next one being Friday, 3rd November at 7.30 pm. Entry is £2 per player with all proceeds handed out in prize money. Tea, coffee and biscuits are served at the halfway stage, giving everyone a chance for a quick chat. There is also a prize draw, the proceeds of which go towards village hall funds for the upkeep of the hall.

Donations of draw prizes would be much appreciated.

If you enjoy playing cards and would like to join us new players are always welcome. For further information ring Val Nunn on 07483245825.

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Have you been having a sort out? Do you have anything you would like to sell....you are more than welcome to advertise individual items in the Grapevine for a small fee of £2.50 which would go to support publishing our Village Magazine. Contact stclaregrapevine@gmail.com

Useful Local Contacts

Anglian Water - Emergencies	03457 145145
Borough Council	St Edmundsbury Offices - 01284 763233
Local Member	Sarah Mildmay-White - 01359 270580 Sara.Mildmay-White@stedsbc.gov.uk
Bradfield St Clare Book Club/Village Hall Bookings	Mrs Val Nunn - 01284 388830
Bra dfield Grapevine Magazine	Mrs Debbie Thomas - 01284 386302 stclaregrapevine@gmail.com Mrs Margaret Lovick - 01284 386662
Bury Stray Cat Fund	01284 388455
Charity for the Relief in Sickness	Secretary: Mrs Vicky Spall - 01284 386357
Suffolk County Council Switchboard	01284 763233
Local Councillor	Mrs Karen Soons - 07864601887 Karen.soons@suffolk.gov.uk
Dentist (Emergency)	By appointment Sat and Sun pm 0300 130 3065
Doctor – Suffolk Doctors on Call	Ring your own Surgery <i>Or alternatively call 111</i>
Electricity	UK Power Networks Supply Faults 0800 783 8838
Footpath Warden	Mrs Fenella Fraser - 01284 388310
Gospel Hall	Mr Keith Arknett - 01359 240910
Mobile Library	Mr Carl Bell - 07721 879855
Member of Parliament	Mrs Jo Churchill - 01284 752311 www.jochurchill.mp@parliament.uk
Neighbourhood Watch Contact	Mrs Dianne Bullard - 01284 386598
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs Nicola Sturgeon - 07817170906
Parish Council Website	http://bradfieldstclare.one Suffolk.net
Police	101 (non-urgent) 999 (urgent)
Post office Delivery Office	01284 358201
Schools:Cockfield Primary	01284 828287
Thurston Community College	01359 230885
West Suffolk College	01284 701301
St Clare Church	Rev. Canon Sharon Potter revsharon2@gmail.com 01284 828599 / 07825 086063
St Edmunds RC Church	Fr David Bagstaff - 01284 754358